

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 TRSE-00
SOE-02 DOE-15 CIAE-00 COME-00 ICAE-00 SSO-00
DOEE-00 /038 W
-----074417 112055Z /65

O 112037Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1399

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 15168

USOECD

EXCON

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: ESTC, COCOM, US, UR, FR
SUBJECT: US AND FRENCH STRETCH FORM PRESSES TO USSR -
IL 1081 (CYRIL BATH CASE)

REF: (A) COCOM DOC (78) 108, (B) STATE 117003, (C) STATE
118138, (D) PARIS (77) 27114, (E) PARIS (77) 34016,
(F) PARIS 6455, (G) PARIS 14380

1. AT MAY 9 COCOM MEETING USDEL MADE STATEMENT BASED
ON PARAS 1 AND 2 REF B. FRENCH DEL DID NOT RESPOND TO
QUESTIONS POSED IN PARA 2. DURING MEETING JAPANESE DEL
APPROVED CASE. CASE WILL BE ON AGENDA MAY 23 FOR GERMAN
UK AND FRENCH POSITIONS.

2. FOLLOWING MEETINGS WITH DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OF COMMERCE MARCUSS, EMBASSY AND USDEL CONSIDERING
ANOTHER BILATERAL APPROACH TO FRENCH TO OBTAIN FURTHER
INFORMATION ON THE FRENCH PRESSES. AS FRENCH LIKELY
MERELY TO PROVIDE THE INFORMATION PREVIOUSLY SUPPLIED
WHICH THEY CLAIM SUFFICIENTLY DISTINGUISHES THEIR
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PRESSES FROM THE CYRIL BATH PRESS, USDEL WOULD E
APPRECIATE RECEIVING EDAC AGENCIES' ASSESSMENT OF THAT
INFORMATION (SUMMARIZED BELOW).

3. TECHNICAL INFORMATION SO FAR PROVIDED BY FRENCH IS
AS FOLLOWS:

A. FRENCH LETTER OF SEPT. 16, 1977 (REFTEL D):
ORDER INVOLVES 9 HYDRAULIC FORMING PRESSES TO
AVTOPROIMPORT FOR AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY. PRESSES ARE
SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR PRODUCTION IN LARGE SERIES OF
AUTOMOTIVE PARTS.

B. FRENCH LETTER OF NOV. 21, 1977 (REFTEL E):
NINE HORIZONTAL HYDRAULIC PRESSES ARE BEING SOLD BY
FRENCH WITH TOTAL FORCES OF BETWEEN 300 AND 1,100
TONS. PRESSES NOT SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR AERONAUTIC
INDUSTRY. SEVERAL OF THESE MACHINES HAVE PREVIOUSLY
BEEN DELIVERED TO RENAULT, KOEVER AND BERLIET.

C. FRENCH LETTER OF FEB. 23, 1978 (REFTEL G):
AVTOPROIMPORT ORDER INVOLVES 9 GENERAL TYPE PRESSES.
THESE SAME KIND OF PRESSES ARE CURRENTLY USED TO MAKE
BOILERS, RAILROAD CAR STOCK, MARITIME ITEMS, AND AUTO
AND TRUCK BODIES. FRENCH ALSO SAID THAT EQUIPMENT
EQUIPPED WITH AUTOMATIC CONTROLS (WHICH THEY STATE
MAKE NO DIFFERENCE REGARDING WHETHER PRESS WILL BE
USED TO PRODUCE SMALL SERIES OR LARGE SERIES RUNS).

D. FRENCH STATEMENT AT COCOM MEETING MARCH 22
(COCOM DOC (78) 108.3) -- FRENCH PRESSES USED TO
FORM THIN SHEETS. THEY FORM METAL AND ALLOYS WITH
MELTING POINTS BELOW 1,900 DEGREES C OR 3452 DEGREES F.
FRENCH PRESSES ARE NOT EQUIPPED WITH FOLLOWING
FEATURES:

1. SWIVEL CYLINDERS FOR ORIENTING GRIP JAWS;
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2. DEVICE INCLUDING A CIRCULAR TRACK IN THE
VERTICAL FORM OF A HELICOIDAL RAMP;
3. VERTICAL MOTION CYLINDERS FOR THE VERTICAL
DISPLACEMENT OF THE JAW ASSEMBLY;
4. TENSION CYLINDERS TO PERMIT TILTING OF THE
JAW ASSEMBLY CROSS RAIL.

FRENCH CLAIM THAT THESE FEATURES MAKE U.S. PRESS
SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR FORMING OF STRESSKIN PANEL.

E. FRENCH STATEMENT AT COCOM MEETING MAY 2:
(COCOM DOC (78) 1U8.6, (REF G)): FRENCH REPEATED THAT
U.S. PRESS HAD JAW OPENING OF 15 MM WHICH WAS NECESSARY

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 DOEE-00 DODE-00
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TO ALLOW THEM TO FORM THICK PANELS AND THAT FRENCH PRESS DID NOT HAVE SUCH A JAW OPENING. THEY ALSO STRESSED THAT FRENCH PRESSES DO NOT HAVE HELICOIDAL RAMP WHICH, THEY SAY IS INDISPENSIBLE RPT INDISPENSIBLE FOR THE FORMING OF THE STRESSKIN PANELS. THEY ALSO SAID THAT FACT THAT PRESS MIGHT POSSESS HYDRAULIC BRIDGE DID NOT GIVE THEM ANY SPECIFIC CHARACTER WITH REGARD TO THEIR USE. FRENCH STATED THAT THEIR PRESSES COULD BE AVAILABLE WITH THIS OPTION. WITH REGARD TO PHOTO SUBMITTED TO COCOM BY USDEL FRENCH DEL STATED UNEQUIVOCALLY THAT PRESSES INVOLVED IN THIS TRANS-ACTION WERE DIFFERENT FROM ONE IN THE PHOTO.

4. IN PARTICULAR USDEL WOULD LIKE TO KNOW (A) IF ANY OF THIS TECHNICAL INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE FRENCH IS IN FACT RELEVANT TO ITS EMBARGO STATUS UNDER 1081, AND (B) IF IN FACT THE FRENCH PRESSES DO NOT CONTAIN HELICOIDAL RAMPS, WOULD THIS MEAN THAT THEY COULD NOT BE USED TO FORM STRESSKIN PANELS AND WOULD THIS BE RELEVANT TO EMBARGO STATUS UNDER 1081.

5. IN PAST WE HAVE ASKED FRENCH FOR PICTURES, BROCHURES, BLUE PRINTS, OR SPECIFICATIONS (IN GENERAL)
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OF THEIR PRESSES. IF THEY CONTINUE TO REFUSE TO PROVIDE THESE ITEMS, ARE THERE ANY SPECIFIC DETAILS REGARDING THE FRENCH PRESSES WHICH IF WE COULD OBTAIN, WOULD ASSIST U.S. TECHNICIANS IN MAKING THE NECESSARY COMPARISON WITH THE CYRIL BATH PRESS AND/OR DETERMINE THEIR STATUS RE 1081.
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